Similipal Tiger Reserve

*272. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many families are yet to be shifted out from inside the designated core area of the Similipal Tiger Reserve and how many families have already been shifted out;

(b) whether it is a fact that the wild dogs, cuon alpinus, are slowly becoming extinct in the Similipal forests; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) As reported by the State Government, out of 157 families from 4 villages within the Similipal Tiger Reserve, 72 families have been rehabilitated and 85 families are yet to be relocated.

(b) and (c) No scientific evidence has come to light indicating that the wild dogs in Similipal Tiger Reserve are threatened with extinction.

Pending rail projects in NER

*273. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new, ongoing projects including survey projects and pending rail projects in the North-East Region, project-wise;

(b) the time schedule for completion of these projects; and

(c) the measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b)

Statement

The details of new, ongoing projects including survey projects in the North East Region projectwise along with the time schedule for completion of these projects

(Rupees in crores)

Sl. No	Project	Year of inclusion in budget	Month of receiving clearances	Kms	Anticipated cost	Expenditure upto March, 03	Budget Outlay 2003-04	Present Status and target for completion wherever fixed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	NEW LINE							
1.	New Maynaguri Jogighopa	2000-01	—	245	733	9.24	25	Final location survey completed and report is under finalisa-tion. Earthwork for widening of bank for gauge conversion portion from Maynaguri Road to hangrabandha (19 km) in progress and acquisition has been processed for new line portion and Rs. 9.31 cr. has been paid to the State Govt. of West Bengal towards the cost of land.
2.	Harmuti-Itanagar	1996-97	Feb.-97	22	156	—	3	Survey for an alternative alignment at the request of State Govt. from edati to Itanagar (45 km) has been taken up. The work would be taken up once alignment is finalised.

3.	Diphu-Karong	1997-98	Sep.-98	123	1600	0.02	3	On the request of Government of Manipur, survey for Jiribam-Imphal as an alternative alignment was conducted. Government has recently accorded its clearance for taking up Jiribam-Imphal new line in lieu of Diphu-Karong. Further action in the matter is being taken.
4.	Bogibeel bridge with linking lines between Dibrugarh and North Bank line	1997-98	Sep.-97	46	1767.36	77.15	60	Final location survey has been completed and land acquisition is in progress for which Rs. 39.89 crore has been deposited with the State Government of Assam. Work of collection of boulders and approach road is in progress. Earthwork and bridges on Moranhat- Dibrugarh line has been taken up. The tender for substructure of Bogibeel bridge has been processed. The work is targeted for completion by April, 2008.
5.	Kumarghat-Agartala	1996-97	Jul-96	109	879.66	259.67	85	Kumarghat-Manu (21kms) has been commissioned on 27-12-02. Land has almost been taken over, Earthwork and bridgeworks in the entire length are in progress. Tunneling has also been taken up. Progress adversely affected due to severe militant activities on the project section.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6.	Dudhnoi-Depa	1992-93		15.5	22.33	0.52	0.01	Land acquisition papers were submitted to State Govt. in July, 1997. However, Meghalaya Government has not made available the land so far due to resistance from local people.
	GAUGE CONVERSION							
7.	Katakhal-Bhairabi (Suppl.)	1997-98	Feb.-99	84	88.7	0.0001	1	The work would be taken up once Lumding-Silchar is in advance stage of completion.
8.	New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon.	1997-98	Feb.-99	417	523.17	414.49	65	New Jalpaiguri to Samuktala Road (180 km) has been completed and commissioned on 20-11 -03. Earth-work, bridgework and other works are in progress on Samuktala Road-New Bongaigaon section. This section is expected to be completed during 2004-05. Work on Alipurduar-Bamanhat branch line is also in progress.
9.	Lumding-Silchar with Material Modification for extension from Badarpur to Baraigram	1996-97	Jul-96	248	1491.69	184.99	75	325 hectares of land out of 350 hectares between Langting to Ditokcherra have been acquired. Earthwork and bridges are in progress. Tunnel work has also been taken up. Work adversely affected due to poor law and order condition prevailing in the area.

The month of clearance is given in case of works which have been included in the budget with the proviso that the work would be taken up after obtaining necessary surveys:

Sl. No.	Description	Kms.	Likely completion schedule
1.	Restoration Haibargaon-Mairabri and Senchoa-Silghat-Final Location Survey	105.4	31.12.2003
2	Jogighopa to Silchar *via* Panchratna new line-Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey	500	2004-05
3.	Bhairabi-Sairang new line-Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey	54.2	2004-05
4.	Kohima-Dimapur new line-Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey	120	2004-05
5.	Extension of Amguri-Tuli to Tuli Town new line-Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey	11	2004-05
6.	Bedeti-Itanagar new line-Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey	45	2004-05
7.	Azara-Bymihat new line-Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey	30	31.3.2004

(c) A number of initiatives have been taken up in the past two years to get additional resources through public/ private partnership, sharing by State Governments, funding from Ministry of Defence, additional projects specific funds for national project of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla and funds through National Rail Vikas Yojana. With these efforts, additional resources have become available which would expedite completion of the ongoing projects. It is expected that the ongoing projects may get completed in a period of about ten years.